

# Water District #1 of Jo Co Governing Board At-Large 2021

Response ID:9 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Kay Heley RN

### 2. Candidate for Board Seat #

WaterOne Board Position 3

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 8214 W. 75th St.

City/State/Zip : Overland Park, KS 66204

### 4. Phone Number

816-516-8271

### 5. Email Address

heleyforwaterone@gmail.com

### 6. Campaign Website

heleyforwaterone.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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### 7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

I have spent 35 years in public health nursing including the Wyandotte County Health Department and retired in 2018 from school nursing in SMSD.

### 8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

I am a member of multiple Chambers via our WaterOne membership and appreciate attending a variety of educational, inspirational and fun Chamber events.

### 9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

WaterOne Board since 2017, current Vice Chair, Finance and Government/Community Relations Committees member

American Water Works Association (AWWA) Public Officials Certification

AWWA Climate Change Committee member

Climate Action KC member

Co-Chair, League of Women Voters Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Heart-to-Heart Intl. Vaccine Clinic Volunteer

Harvesters Volunteer

## 3. Issues and Policy

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### 10. As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues regarding the Water District? (100 words or less)

- 1).Public Health - continuing to provide safe, reliable, affordable drinking water and plentiful firefighting supplies while protecting the health and safety of our essential employees.
- 2).Financial Stability and Affordability - Maintaining our Triple AAA bond rating and 40 year Master Plan while overseeing \$1 billion in infrastructure and balancing water conservation with low, predictable rates (among the lowest in the area).
- 3). Engaging Our Community in Environmental Sustainability - protecting our source waters, the Kansas and Missouri Rivers, our reservoirs, and our infrastructure, incorporating the regional Climate Action Plan and financially sound climate mitigation strategies including renewable sources of energy.

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**11. Why are you seeking to serve on the Water District Board? (100 words or less)**

I am the nurse running for my second term on the WaterOne Board because our water is too precious to take for granted. We are fortunate to have a well-run, financially stable public water utility with 390+essential employees that I want to continue to support. I incorporate all I'm learning about infrastructure, engineering, finance, climate change impacts, source water protection, and cybersecurity into decisions. I support fully funding the Kansas Water Plan and the Water District's adoption of climate adaptation and climate mitigation strategies. I want to continue learning, asking questions and engaging our community in the water we drink.

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**12. What do you believe makes you uniquely qualified to serve on the Board and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)**

I am the nurse running for my second term who incorporates science, public health, and fiscal and environmental responsibility into every decision I make as a Board member.

As a Board member overseeing \$1 billion in infrastructure while setting rates, I hold myself accountable for our Triple AAA bond rating, our 40-year Master Plan and our climate impact plans.

I am interested in the complex connections between water quality and quantity throughout Kansas. I audited KU Law School's Water Law course to better understand.

I am experienced in listening to diverse ratepayers and including their priorities in my Board role.

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